BOARD OF **SUPERVISORS** Hilda L. Solis First District

Executive

Chief

Holly J. Mitchell Second District

Lindsey P. Horvath Third District

Janice Hahn Fourth District Kathryn Barger Fifth District



Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration 500 West Temple Street, Room 713, Los Angeles, CA 90012 (213) 974-1101 ceo.lacounty.gov

Chief Executive Officer Fesia A. Davenport

"To Enrich Lives Through Effective and Caring Service"

February 28, 2023

The Honorable Board of Supervisors County of Los Angeles 383 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration 500 West Temple Street Los Angeles, California 90012

Dear Supervisors:

ADOPTED

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

73 February 28, 2023

> CELIA ZAVALA **EXECUTIVE OFFICER**

APPOINTMENT AND SALARY FOR DIRECTOR OF MENTAL HEALTH (ALL SUPERVISORIAL DISTRICTS) (3 VOTES)

SUBJECT

Recommendation to appoint and set the salary for Lisa H. Wong to serve as the Director of Mental Health for the County of Los Angeles.

IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT THE BOARD:

- 1. Appoint Lisa H. Wong to serve as the Director of Mental Health at an annual salary of \$505,219.58, effective February 28, 2023.
- 2. Instruct the Director of Personnel to prepare and execute the appropriate agreement with the Director of Mental Health.

PURPOSE/JUSTIFICATION OF RECOMMENDED ACTION

The purpose of the recommended actions is to appoint a Director of Mental Health for the County of Los Angeles and to set the salary for the position for Dr. Wong.

Dr. Wong has over 33 years of experience working for the Los Angeles County Department of Mental Health. Since July 2022, Dr. Wong has been functioning as Interim Director of the Department of Mental Health. Prior to her current assignment, Dr. Wong functioned as Senior Deputy Director overseeing the department's clinical programs and community-based services over a broad range of settings throughout Los Angeles County. Dr. Wong was also the Interim Chief of the Full-Service Partnership program, a 24/7 intensive outpatient service aimed at helping clients at The Honorable Board of Supervisors 2/28/2023 Page 2

risk for homelessness, incarceration, and hospitalization, among other negative life outcomes. In previous assignments, Dr. Wong worked in the Skid Row area providing care to some of the most vulnerable and high-risk individuals experiencing serious mental illness and homelessness. She also served as a Mental Health Clinical Program Head over Downtown Mental Health Center general outpatient services, California Work Opportunity and Responsibility to Kids (CalWORKs), General Relief Opportunities for Work (GROW), and Prevention and Early Intervention programs before becoming a Service Area Chief over Service Areas 2 and 3. Dr. Wong has also served as Acting North County Chief for Outpatient Services.

Dr. Wong possesses a Doctor of Psychology from the Pacifica Graduate Institute, a Master of Arts in Clinical Psychology from California State University, Los Angeles, and a Bachelor of Arts in Psychology with a minor in Biology from California State University, Los Angeles.

Given Dr. Wong's education and experience, it is recommended that the Board appoint Dr. Wong to serve as the Director of Mental Health, effective February 28, 2023, at an annual salary of \$505,219.58.

Implementation of Strategic Plan Goals

Approval of these recommendations will further the County of Los Angeles' Strategic Plan Goal III.3, Pursue Operational Effectiveness, Fiscal Responsibility, and Accountability to continually assess our efficiency and effectiveness, maximize and leverage resources, and hold ourselves accountable.

FISCAL IMPACT/FINANCING

The cost of the recommended salary will be absorbed within the Department of Mental Health's budget.

FACTS AND PROVISIONS/LEGAL REQUIREMENTS

The recommended salary will provide appropriate compensation to Dr. Wong to perform the duties of the Director of Mental Health.

IMPACT ON CURRENT SERVICES (OR PROJECTS)

Implementation of these recommendations will provide leadership for the Department of Mental Health.

The Honorable Board of Supervisors 2/28/2023 Page 3

Respectfully submitted,

FESIA A. DAVENPORT

Chief Executive Officer

FAD:JMN:AC:AYH NV:SO:AP:mmg

c: Executive Office, Board of Supervisors

County Counsel Auditor-Controller Human Resources